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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Prof. Richard C. Willson III )

and Dr. Jason Murphy )

Serial No.: 09/994,701 )

Filed: 11/06/2001 )

For: Nucleic Acid ...Metal Affinity Chromatography )

)Examiner

)Dr. Patrick S. Riggins

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Priority: Provis 60/246,292

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)Art Unit 1636

Response Due: 8 May 2005 [8 July 2005 with Two-Month Extension]

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FIRST ACTION ON THE MERITS**

Commissioner for Patents

Box 1450 Group 1636

Arlington VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the nonfinal Office Action mailed 8 February 2005, consideration of the following remarks is solicited.

The undersigned Attorney certifies that this Document has been filed in the U.S. Post Office via Express Mail EU058916776US to the above address on 8 July 2005 (37 CFR 1.10).

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